which a large number of terrorists were killed, a large number of hideouts were traced and arms and ammunition were recovered. So, these approaches continue simultaneously and there is no lowering of guards anywhere

Busting of international drug racket

*42 SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether in the context of recent busting of an international drug racket in Kolkata, the Interpol experts have commented that enforcement of legally grown poppy has been traditionally effective in India;

(b) whether India is now facing the menace and threat posed by design drugs like Amphetamine and Methamphetamine which have energed as the favourite of urban drug addicts in India, and

(c) whether Myanmar is the largest producer of these designer drugs and if so, what preventive steps are being taken to check the cross-border smuggling along Indo-Myanmarese border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes Sir The measures taken to control licit opium production have generally been appreciated by the International Narcotics Control Board

(b) No Sir Seizure data in respect of these drugs does not suggest that India is now facing the menace and threat posed by designer drugs like Amphetamine and Methamphetamine or that these drugs have emerged as the favourite of urban drug addicts in India.

(c) According to reports available with the Narcotics Control Bureau, in recent years, most of the world's manufacture of Amphetamine Type Stimulants, with the exception of MDMA (Ecstasy) has taken place in the South East Asia region, including Myanmar

A number of steps have been taken to curb and cross-border smuggling of narcotic drugs along the Indo-Myanmar border which, *inter-alia*, includes the follows:—

(i) Strict surveillance at important points and land borders and enforcement drug laws.

(ii) Improved coordination between drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart great cohesion and multi agencies approach,

(iii) Increased international cooperation in intelligence collection, investigation and mutual legal assistance.

(iv) Bilateral agreements on drug related matters between a number of countries including Myanmar

(v) Border meetings between law enforcement agencies of India and Myanmar.

(vi) It has been decided to entrust the border management of the Indo-Myanmar border to Assam Rifles.

SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Sir, drug addiction and drug trafficking has been a very important issue the world over for the past three decades. The answer given by the hon Minister to the 'c' part of the question is very vague The Finance Ministry, in its Annual Report, 2002-03, at page No 133, has admitted that the drug trafficking along Indo-Myanmar border did not show any change in trends this year. And, the drug entering in India is used for local consumption, and is not moved across India for international destination I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware that the incidence of drug addiction is the highest in the North-Eastern States, like Manipur and Mizoram, because of this illegal entry of drugs from Myanmar. If yes, how can the Government let the people of these senstive border States become drug addicts, which is affecting our security?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, as far as the drug trafficking is concerned, the Government is aware of what is happening in North-East So, in keeping with that, I have already, in response to the question, mentioned, "A number of steps have been taken to curb the cross-border smuggling of narcotic drugs along the Indo-Myanmar border, which, *inter alia,* includes the following . ." I have already made a mention of these steps.

If you want, I can repeat them. so, these are the steps that we have taken. The Government is very serious about it. All necessary steps which could be taken, have been taken seriously. I think, my answer has given in detail the steps that have already been taken by the Government.

SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY. Sir, the answer, given in response to part 'c' of the question, does not mention about the North-Eastern States Anyway, my next supplementary is, the back-bag tourists from abroad, that is, *Hippies* patronised illegal drug trade in India. They also frequent remote areas like Himachal Pradesh, where cannabis, that is, *Ganja* is grown. Goa is another place where such illicit trade flourishes. I would like to ask the Minister whether the Government would consider making 'out of bounds' the traditionally cannabis *ganja* growing areas in Himachal forests and valleys for back-bagging variety of tourists.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, drugs have become a problem for the whole world. It is problem for us also. But, at the same time, the manner in which India has been dealing with this problem, has earned for us some kind of respect even from international organisations. Though the questioner said that the Interpol experts have praised us, the fact is that the manner, in which we have controlled licit opium production, has generally been appreciated by the International Narcotics Control Board It is they who have praised us, for the manner in which we have dealt with licit opium. Drugs are broadly of two kinds—plant-based drugs and synthetic drugs. The synthetic drugs, no doubt, come from Myanmar mode. Then, there are plant-based drugs, which are mostly used in India because we are an opium-growing country. We have several areas where opium is grown. But we have effectively ensured that it is licit opium, it is not illicit opium, it does not converted into drugs This the broad approach that the Government of India has towards this problem

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, so far as the control of opium production and converting it into substances for medical use is concerned, that is appreciated. But, in a very recent case, we found the extent of drug trafficking and how the organisers are skilfully using it in Kalkata. In one of the operations of the Narcotic Departments, we

found that one of the biggest rackets had been unearthed there at the residence of a former CBI officer ...(*Interruptions)* And in that case...(*Interruptions)* I am not going into the area of *sub judice*, but the fact remains that had he been an ordinary man, he would have been arrested and prosecuted. But till today a debate is going on between the Department of Narcotics and the persons concerned, whether, as a house-owner, he is concerned or not. Therefore, this matter can be taken up by the Judiciary. I am not going to comment on it. But the hard fact which is staring at our face is that there is no proper, effective coordination between the law enforcing machinery, that is, the Police and Administration, and also the Narcotic Departments, Therefore, these types of thing could go on. And what has been revealed in the newspaper is that this operation was going on for almost three to four years. A large number of international racketeers were involved in it and everything was done on the basis of a so-called take document that some recommendation came from the Resident Commissioner of a Provincial Government.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, Shri Pranabda had rightly said that the matter is *sub judice. (Interruptions)*

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: What is *sub judice*? ...(*Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, let him speak आप बैठिए ... (व्यवधान) SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, I am answering that question. Even before coming here, I made enquiries about this becasue this was a case of ephidrine, which is used for synthetic drugs. The questionnaire had asked about synthetic drugs today, and I was told that five foreign nationals had been arrested in connection with this ...(*Interruptions)* ...(*Interruptions)*... also enquired whether in cases of this kind, the house owner, that is the landlord of the building, where the person is arrested, is also liable under the law. I was told that he is not liable. ....(*Interruptions)*

श्री सभापति: जरा सुनिए तो सही ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA. No; no. ....(*Interruptions)* A new items had appeared in the *Tribune*. ...(*Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him finish ...(*Interruptions)* बोलने दीजिए उनको ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: This is on the front page, Sir ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR CHAIRMAN: Let him finish. . .(*Interruptions*)... Let him finish his reply. (*Interruptions*).... बैठिए, बैठिए. (व्यवधान)

Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*) .. Please take your Seat. .(*Interruptions*) ..

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: जखीरा पकड़ा है उनके घर में ...(व्यवधान) सरकार उनको बचाने का प्रयास कर रही है . .(व्यवधान) सरकार उनको बचा रही है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: बैठिए उनको बोलने दीजिए ..(व्यवधान)...

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: ड्रग्ज का जखीरा उनके घर में पकड़ा है ..(व्यवधान) .

श्री सभापति: उनको फिनिश करने दीजिए ..(व्यवधान) Let him finish his reply. (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It is a *sub-Judice* matter, Let the court decide, I have nothing to say about it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: बैठिए, बैठिए ...(व्यवधान) बैठिए, बैठिए...(व्यवधान) Let him finish his reply. (*Interruption*)...

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, the Narcotics Control Bureau has informed me that there is no evidence of connivance...(*Interruption*)...

श्री सभापति: आप बोलने तो दो ...(व्यवधान)

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: उनके घर में जखीरा पकड़ा है। जहां वह रहते हैं, उस घर में जखीरा पकड़ा है .. (व्यवधान)

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Sir, he misleading the entire House. ...(*Interruption*)...

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: In fact, the house owner has been shown as a prosecution witness. He is a witness on behalf of the prosecutor. (*Interruption*)...

SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ: Sir, one minute. ...(*Interruption*)... I am not contradicting the Home Minister at all. But you will take it that at the time when this Narcotics Bill was passed, I was a Minister. I had studied it and I had put two statutory presumptions in this law that where the opium or some contraband is found, the onus will be on the person from whose possession this was recovered. Therefore, the onus is on the house owner and he has been ...(*Interruption*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak...(*Interruption*)...

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The possession was with the tenant. पोजेशन टेनेंट के पास था। अगर उसका कनाइवेंस का एविडेंस होता तो उसमें भी पकड़ सकते थे ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री लालू प्रसाद: ये उनको बचा रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: सरकार उनको बचा रही है ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, one second. (*Interruption*)...Sir, I just want to place on record the fact that the NCB Assistant.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, one second. ...(*Interruption*)... Sir, I just want to place on record the fact that the NCB Assistant Director, Mr. N.C. Patra, in a Press Conference stated that there is concrete evidence with the NCB of the involvement of Mr. Biswas in the drug racket. But he had not been arrested due to certain formalities. He further hinted that the former Joint Director could be arrested any time and the Police had been told to keep his movement under observation. Now, we are told he is made a witness in the case...(*Interruption*)... He is made a witness in the case. This is only because this gintleman had procecuted some political leader. Now, it seens, *(Interruptions)*... Mr. Bhandari, one minute...(*Interruption*)... Now, it seems Mr. Chairman, that the benefit of doubt is being given to Mr. Biswas...(*Interruption*)... The benefit of doubt is being given to him ...(*Interruption*)... It is his house from where the narcotics were recovered. It is the statement of NCB that they have evidence against him and he is made a witness and given benefit of doubt before the prosecution commences. Is this the way the responsible Government must behave in this country?....(*Interruption*)... Can you imagine...(*Interruption*)...

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: इन लोगों ने लालू जी के खिलाफ फर्जी मुकदमा कराया ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Home Minister reply...(*Interruption*)...

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी: एक इंवेस्टीगेटिंग एजेंसी और एक केस कोर्ट में, क्या उसका फैसला हम करेंगे?...(व्यवधान) हम नहीं कर सकते ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: We cannot accept it...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: We cannot accept it....(*Interruption*)... In protest, we stage a walk out.....(*Interruption*)...

(At this stage, some Hon. Members left the Chamber)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is over, Next Question. Shrimati Savit Sharda.

युवाओं को अनिवार्य सैन्य प्रशिक्षण

*43. **श्रीमति सविता शारदा: ††**
श्रीमती बिम्बा रायकर:

क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगें कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का देश के युवाओं को अनिवार्य सैन्य प्रशिक्षण देने का विचार है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस संबंध में अंतिम निर्णय कब तक लिए जाने की संभावना है;

(घ) क्या राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा हेतु एन सी सी, भारत स्काउट्स एंड गाइड्स, होम गार्ड और क्षेत्रीय सेना के कार्यकलापों के एकीकरण और समन्वय हेतु कोई प्रयास किए गए है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री जार्ज फर्नांडिस): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) उपर्युक्त (क) के मद्देनजर प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

(घ) इस समय ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव विचारधीन नहीं है।

(ङ) उपर्युक्त (घ) के मद्देनजर प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Mandatory Military training to youths

†*43. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:††
SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impart mandatory military tranining to the youths of the country;

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††यह प्रश्न सभा में श्रीमति सविता शारदा द्वारा पूछा गया।

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Savita Sharda.